

Claims

1. A method of managing billing information of a first contractor and a  
second contractor doing work for a company, wherein the first contractor is doing a first  
5 service operation at the well site, the second contractor is doing a second service operation  
at the well site, and the company has a first computer at a remote location relative to the  
well site, comprising:

- 10                   transporting a second computer to the well site;
- providing a wireless communication link between the first computer and the  
second computer;
- using a first vehicle to facilitate the first contractor doing the first service  
operation;
- using a second vehicle to facilitate the second contractor doing the second service  
operation;
- inputting into the second computer first invoice data pertaining to the first service  
operation;
- inputting into the second computer second invoice data pertaining to the second  
service operation; and
- communicating the first invoice data and the second invoice data from the second  
computer to the first computer using the wireless communication link.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first vehicle is used in transporting the  
second computer to the well site.

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3. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying confirmation  
information on the second computer that indicates that the company has not objected to  
the first invoice data.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising entering into the second computer a first alphanumeric password that serves as a prerequisite for displaying the confirmation information.

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5. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying on the second computer information that indicates that the first invoice data and the second invoice data has been made available to the first computer.

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6. The method of claim 1, further comprising: generating a first electrical signal from a first transducer associated with the first vehicle; converting the first electrical signal to a first digital value; storing the first digital value on the second computer; and using the first digital value to support the validity of the first invoice data.

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7. The method of claim 6, further comprising: generating a second electrical signal from a second transducer associated with the second vehicle; converting the second electrical signal to a second digital value; storing the second digital value on the second computer; and using the second digital value to support the validity of the second invoice data.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first service operation involves manipulating at least one of a plurality of sucker rods and a plurality of tubing.

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9. The method of claim 1, wherein the second service operation involves pumping a fluid.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the fluid is an acid.

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11. The method of claim 9, wherein the fluid includes cement.

10 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the second service operation involves downhole logging, and the second vehicle assists the second contractor in doing the second service operation by transporting a logging transducer to the well site.

15 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the first invoice data includes a plurality of line items, which are selectively classifiable as consumable, nonconsumable, labor, and rental.

20 14. The method of claim 1, further comprising entering a well site identifier into the second computer.

25 15. A method of managing billing information of a first contractor doing work for a company, wherein the first contractor is doing a first service operation at the well site, and the company has a home base computer at a remote location relative to the well site, comprising:

transporting a mobile computer to the well site;  
using a first vehicle to assist the first contractor in doing the first service operation;  
confirming that the first contractor has performed the first service operation;

5 entering into the mobile computer approval information that indicates that the step of confirming has been carried out;

displaying on the mobile computer a password of a limited useful life in response to entering the approval information into the second computer;

with the aide of the password, submitting to the company first invoice data that pertains to the first service operation; and

terminating the limited useful life of the password after submitting the first invoice data to the company.

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15 16. The method of claim 15, further comprising approving the first invoice data based on the existence of the password.

17. The method of claim 15, further comprising:

providing a wireless communication link between the home base computer and the mobile computer; and

communicating the approval information from the mobile computer to the home base computer using the wireless communication link.

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25 18. A method of managing billing information of a first contractor and a second contractor doing work for a company, wherein the first contractor is doing a first service operation at the well site, the second contractor is doing a second service operation at the well site, and the company has a first computer at a remote location relative to the well site, comprising:

using a first vehicle to assist the first contractor in doing the first service operation;

using a second vehicle to assist the second contractor in doing the second service operation;

30 using the first vehicle to transport a second computer to the well site;

providing a wireless communication link between the first computer and the second computer;

inputting into the second computer first invoice data pertaining to the first service operation;

5       inputting into the second computer second invoice data pertaining to the second service operation;

communicating the first invoice data and the second invoice data from the second computer to the first computer using the wireless communication link;

10      displaying on the second computer information that indicates that the first invoice data and the second invoice data has been made available to the first computer;

displaying confirmation information on the second computer that indicates that the company has not objected to the first invoice data; and

entering into the second computer a first alphanumeric password that serves as a prerequisite for displaying the confirmation information.

15      19. The method of claim 18, further comprising: generating a first electrical signal from a first transducer associated with the first vehicle; converting the first electrical signal to a first digital value; storing the first digital value on the second computer; and using the first digital value to support the validity of the first invoice data.

20      20. The method of claim 18, wherein the first service operation involves manipulating at least one of a plurality of sucker rods and a plurality of tubing.

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21. The method of claim 18, wherein the second service operation involves pumping a fluid.